

The University of Virginia Partnership for Leaders in Education

The University of Virginia Partnership for Leaders in Education (UVA-PLE) is focused on Empowering Leaders to Ignite System and School Change. Through three years of partnership, UVA-PLE collaborates with district and school leadership to build collective leadership capacity and shift the paradigm in under-performing schools, generating lasting gains in achievement and learning to spread success and improve conditions across the full district. Recognizing that there is no one formula to transform a school, UVA-PLE partners with district and school leaders to identify their unique needs and develop relevant strategies based on school and district context, leveraging local understanding of contextual challenges and our body of research knowledge of what matters most to transform schools. UVA-PLE partners to ensure more effective system conditions and school leadership practices that enable teachers to remarkably improve student learning and opportunities. Our systems condition support is focused in four key levers: System Leadership, Support and Accountability, Talent Management and Instructional Infrastructure. UVA-PLE's work has impacted over 756 schools across 28 states and over 120 districts, where most of our partner schools outgain state averages. Almost 50% of our partner schools have experienced double-digit proficiency gains within three years and many of our partner schools receive outstanding recognition as Title 1 Blue Ribbon schools, Beating the Odds schools, and top tier growth schools.

Contact Leighann Lenti at lentil@darden.virginia.edu or by phone at (202) 262-4493.

Central Kentucky Educational Cooperative (CKEC)

The CKEC School Improvement & Turnaround Project (SITP) is one of the two vendors approved by the Kentucky Board of Education to provide improvement and turnaround support to schools identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and their districts in Kentucky. The SITP was selected based on a rigorous application process in the areas of turnaround diagnosis, planning, capacity building, and use of evidence-based practices. The SITP staff has a track record successful experience leading improvement and turnaround efforts in multiple schools and districts. The approach is based on practical, student-focused strategies. We understand the challenges and opportunities of change leadership and what it takes to lead turnaround efforts, and we have specific data to support our success in school and district improvement. Our areas of expertise and experience include school culture, data analysis, standards-based planning, balanced assessment, systems thinking, professional learning communities, specific content knowledge, English learners and students with disabilities. Upon request, SITP staff are available to discuss the team's experience with turnaround and improvement and the approach in a particular school or district.

Contact David Young at david.young@ckec.org or by phone at (859) 319-0717 or Maurice Chappell at maurice.chappel@ckec.org or by phone at (859) 533-0945.

Kentucky Department of Education

The Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Continuous Improvement and Support has provided turnaround assistance to schools identified for low-performing status, including the current status of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), and their respective districts since 2010. Our work begins with the translation of regulation and policy into various needs

assessment protocols with a focus on district/school context, strategic and comprehensive improvement planning, and the development of systems with actionable steps. This work design allows for an organic rollout of practices based in research around premises such as turnaround competencies, change leadership, change models, systems thinking, improvement science, Kentucky Academic Standards work, data analysis protocols within balanced assessment systems, and evidence-based strategies for reducing the gap for all student populations. Our Educational Recovery (ER) staff assigned to each school is extensively trained to coach and continuously support all layers of this work. Staff members bring specific expertise around leadership, literacy, and mathematics to the process. Additionally, ER staff will assist schools with the development of a turnaround team and the unpacking of diagnostic review reports into short and long-term actions for their Turnaround Plan. Many of our schools have exited low-performing status by embracing this collaborative, comprehensive approach to school turnaround.

Contact Dr. Kelly Foster at kelly.foster@education.ky.gov or by phone at (502) 564-5130.